

## Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 OMB-01 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05

STR-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /064 W

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P 240044Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5855

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, OAS

SUBJECT: 1975 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM

REF: (A) MEXICO 0618 (B) MEXICO 0180 (C) STATE 009756

1. JAN. 23 FRANCISCO RAMOS CANTORAL INVITED EMBASSY OFFICERS AGAIN TO DISCUSS VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT SYSTEM (VRS) EXPORTS OF MEAT TO U.S. IN CY 1975. RAMOS SAID MATTER HAD BEEN DISCUSSED (REF. A) EXTENSIVELY WITHIN MINAG AND WITH FONOFF AND THAT VRS ACCEPTABLE IN PRINCIPLE TO GOM (AS INDICATED REF. B).

2. RAMOS SAID POLITICAL PROBLEM (REPORTED REFS. A AND B) IS DIFFICULT FOR THEM BUT COULD BE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

A. MINAG WOULD ISSUE PRESS RELEASE ABOUT JAN. 28 WHICH WOULD REVIEW WORLD MEAT PROBLEMS AND ESTABLISH MEXICO'S 1975 EXPORT QUOTA AS GOM HAS DONE IN RECENT YEARS WHEN USG HAD NO QUOTA FOR MEXICO. THE PRESS RELEASE (WHICH WAS VIEWED IN DRAFT BY EMBOFFS) WILL ESTABLISH MEXICO'S OWN EXPORT QUOTA AT 62.8 MILLION LBS. (ALL OF WHICH GOES TO U.S.), BUT WILL MAKE NO MENTION OF VRS THEREBY ALLOWING GOM MITIGATE UNFAVORABLE PUBLIC REACTION LATER WHEN  
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ANNOUNCEMENT MADE IN U.S. THAT MEXICO HAS ACCEPTED

VRS QUOTA OF 62.8 MILLION LBS.

B. ABOUT ONE WEEK AFTER MINAG PRESS RELEASE AND ANTICIPATED FAVORABLE PUBLIC REACTION RECEIVED TO QUOTA LEVEL TWICE AS HIGH AS 1974 EXPORTS, EMBASSY COULD SEND FORMAL DIPLOMATIC NOTE REQUESTING MEXICO'S ACCEPTANCE OF VRS. GOM WOULD THEN RESPOND FAVORABLY.

C. IT VERY IMPORTANT TO GOM THAT NO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BE MADE BY USG THAT GOM HAS ACCEPTED VRS FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY UNTIL AFTER MINAG PRESS RELEASE CARRIED MEXICO PAPERS.

3. COMMENT: GOM OFFICIALS HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO PUBLIC CRITICISM THAT WOULD MOST CERTAINLY OCCUR SHOULD ANNOUNCEMENT BE PREMATURELY MADE IN U.S. THAT MEXICO HAD AGREED TO RESTRICT ITS 1975 MEAT EXPORTS FOR U.S. AT U.S. REQUEST. HOWEVER, IF GOM ALLOWED TO MAKE ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT ITS OWN QUOTA FOR 1975 BEING SET AT 62.8 MILLION LBS. USING THEIR OWN JUSTIFICATION FOR ARRIVING THAT FIGURE, CONSIDERABLE FACE WOULD BE SAVED. UPON REACHING FINAL FORMAL AGREEMENT THROUGH EXCHANGE DIPLOMATIC NOTES, IT WOULD BE EXPLAINED IN MEXICO THAT IT ONLY COINCIDENCE THAT VRS QUOTA FOR MEXICO SAME AS THAT EARLIER ANNOUNCED, OR EVEN THAT USG HAD ACCEPTED MEXICO'S PROPOSED QUOTA LEVEL. GOM OFFICIALS OBVIOUSLY HOPE TO FINALIZE AGREEMENT IN MANNER THAT WILL CAST MEXICO IN BEST LIGHT. EMBASSY BELIEVES USG SHOULD COOPERATE FULLY WITH GOM IN FOLLOWING PROCEDURE AND TIMETABLE PROPOSED PARA 2 IN INTEREST REACHING FINAL ACCORD AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE WITH MINIMUM DAMAGE U.S.-MEXICAN RELATIONS.

4. HOWEVER, WHILE ABOVE SCENARIO OFFERS GOOD POSSIBILITIES FOR BOTH U.S. AND MEXICO TO ACCOMPLISH OBJECTIVES, EMBASSY IS CONCERNED THAT IT MAY BE SOMEWHAT PREMATURE. AS WE READ CABLES, USG STILL TRYING TO LINE UP ALL SUPPLIERS IN PRINCIPLE BEFORE PUTTING VRS INTO EFFECT. WE SEE NO HARM, HOWEVER, AND SOME BENEFIT IN LONG TIME GAP BETWEEN APPLICATION MEXICO EXPORT SYSTEM AND ANY USG ANNOUNCEMENT. DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS REQUESTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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URGENTLY.  
JOVA

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, EXPORT QUOTAS, MEATS, PRESS RELEASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MEXICO00725  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750026-0475  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
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**Subject:** 1975 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** ETRD, EAGR, MX, US  
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